

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
EXTENSION SERVICE
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TRAINING AND USE OF PROJECT LEADERS
IN TEACHING TAILORING

Sutter County, Extension Service, California
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"Any subject matter suitably adapted can be given
successfully by project leaders." -- Miss Nye.

1. History

In response to scattered requests for tailoring in September, 1945, Miss Dodson trained ten leaders in tailoring at a three-day school. To meet general requests for tailoring at the program planning meeting in May, 1946, tailoring was included in the year's program and calendared for February 1947.

In planning how this should be given, the choice was between four zoned four-day schools to be given by the home demonstration agent or eleven community four-day schools in complete charge of project leaders with the agent training the leaders. The latter plan was agreed upon by the project leaders and the agent, and was an experiment.

2. Project Leader Qualifications: (Project leaders selected by HDA)

- 1) Previous sewing experience.
- 2) Enthusiastic, whole-hearted belief in the project.
- 3) Recognized as leaders in their communities.
- 4) Willing to make the time to give to this work.
- 5) Willing to teach only recommended subject matter.

3. Ground Work

- 1) Contacted project leaders previously trained as to willingness to teach in their own communities. Only one project leader for each community, who had full responsibility for teaching.
- 2) Publicized the tailoring program in November and December.
- 3) Conditions set up for enrolling in the tailoring project.
 - (1) Registration limited to women with previous sewing experience.
 - (2) Registration limited to ten women per group.
 - (3) Each registrant willing to meet for work four days, once each week in February.
 - (4) Each registrant to provide her own sewing machine.
 - (5) Each registrant to make a garment with lapels and collar, to learn fundamental tailoring procedure.
 - (6) Working place and day to suit the convenience of the project leader in charge.
 - (7) Each registrant to attend a county-wide pre-tailoring meeting in charge of the agent.
- 4) Gave women opportunity to enroll in December.
- 5) General January work meetings on Pressing Aids, in charge of tailoring project leader and one clothing leader per group.
 - (1) 176 attended - 135 pressing hams made.

6) County-wide pre-tailoring meeting held in January.

- (1) Attendance checked against enrollments. (75 of 81 enrolled.)
- (2) Summarized plans for local group meetings.
- (3) Summarized schedule for project leader training.
- (4) Outlined equipment to be brought by each woman.
- (5) Outlined fabrics needed by each woman.

- (1) The agent provided a supply of pads, tape and extra hymo.
- (6) Gave instructions for shrinkage.
- (7) Discussed type of pattern. To be a child's or woman's coat or jacket with notched collar.
- (8) Divided into groups with each project leader in charge of her group.
 - (1) Checked measurements.
 - (2) Determined pattern size.
 - (3) Arranged for meeting place and day.

4. Training and Work Meetings in February

- 1) Each leader, eleven in all, attended an all-day training meeting once each week, given by the home demonstration agent.
- 2) The training was done in two groups, six in one and five in the other.
- 3) Definite step-by-step directions given for each days work and for homework between workdays. Circulars were provided by the home demonstration agent.
- 4) Each project leader made a garment under the direction of the home demonstration agent. This provided demonstration material to illustrate each days work as it was taught to the women by the leader. This was refresher work for nine of the eleven leaders. One leader, previously trained, did not carry on because of illness. Two new leaders, not previously trained, did equally as good work as those previously trained.
- 5) Each leader met with her group one day each week for work, following the training meeting, and gave the same work that she had done under the direction of the agent. Groups ranged in size from two to twelve women. Completion was one hundred per cent.

5. Comparison of Time and Results Under HDA and Project LeadersH.D.A. In Charge

Possible number of zoned schools 4

Possible number of women participating - 40

Required days

16

Possible number of garments made

40

PL's In Charge

Possible number of community schools - 11

Possible number of women participating - 110

Actual number of women participating - 73

Required days - by each PL 8

Required days - by HDA 8

Actual number of garments made 79

6. Evidences of Continuing Leadership

- 1) Every project leader expresses continued willingness to give individual help as tailoring leader in her community.
- 2) Women who have just finished the work are giving instruction to others.
- 3) A second group in one community is working under the direction of the project leader and the women in the first group.
- 4) Several women are already working on a second or even third garment.

7. Observations

- 1) This information is now available in each community and can be a continuing project without additional time given by the home demonstration agent.
- 2) Project leaders can do this type of teaching.
- 3) Training should be done in small groups.
- 4) Procedure should be carefully planned and definitely outlined.
- 5) Conditions should be set up to contribute to successful results in highly specialized subjects.
- 6) A project such as this, when given by a leader in the community, stimulates more interest and cooperation than when given by the home demonstration agent.
- 7) Recognition of leaders at achievement programs, through newspaper and radio publicity, reports at meetings and result demonstrations, should be a part of any plan for using project leaders.

CLOTHING PROGRAMSTEPS IN TAILORING A COAT OR JACKET WITH COLLAR AND LAPELS

FIRST DAY: Steps 1 to 4

1. Take measurements
2. Check Pattern - Write name on patterns.
 - a. Make alterations
3. Lay pattern
 - a. Check grain lines and pile. Mark.
 - b. Cut material
 - c. Snip for notches - $1/8$ to $1/4$ "
 - d. Make pin markings including outer front.
4. Cut and mark
 - a. Hymo for front facing and back of collar.
 - b. Muslin for back
 - c. Lining - allow 1" pleat in back

HOMEWORK: Steps 5 and 6

5. Shoulder Pads - Fashion over cheese glass - Cover with hymo.
 6. Baste back together
Baste front together
Baste darts
- (wise to pin shoulder and side seams. Slip in pads and check for size at this point)

SECOND DAY: Steps 7 to 13

7. Stitch step 6 and press
If necessary cut darts open and press
8. Make buttonholes, if bound.
9. Make pockets
10. Prepare hymo
 - a. Cut, lap and stitch darts. "Press-on" tape at end of dart.
 - b. Cut $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from neck
Slash should be parallel to armhole and 2" long.
 - c. Spread slash $\frac{1}{2}$ " at neck - put bias under slash and stitch.
11. Inner linings
 - a. Lay hymo to fronts and baste - Baste center front line.
 - b. Put muslin to back and baste - Baste center back line.
12. Mark hymo for buttonholes, cut, pull back of buttonholes through hymo and catch stitch.
13. Mark turn of the lapel, baste - catch hymo to material with diagonal basting in lapel area. Make paper pattern to get identical lapels.

HOMEWORK: Steps 14 to 15

14. Put tape to front edge and prepare for facings. Shrink tape-Shape for lapels and collar.
 - a. Lay edge of tape at seam depth
 - b. Baste in middle of tape
 - c. Fasten tape to hymo with a quick stitch.
 - d. Trim away hymo seam - allow $1/8$ " under tape.
15. Baste shoulder and side seams - do not include hymo - do include muslin in shoulder and side seams.

THIRD DAY: Steps 16 to 21

16. Fit, stitch and press step 15.
17. Pin facings on
 - a. Ease in lapels - stitch on tape edge and press open
 - b. Stagger seam and catch under seam to hymo. Trim facing seam close to seam line.
 - c. Turn and press.
 - d. Tack hymo to coat with long lock - stitch basting.
 - e. Finish buttonholes on facing.
 - f. Tack facing to hymo with long, lock-stitch basting.

18. Prepare collar

- a. Stitch seam in back of collar
- b. Lap seam in hyno and stitch
- c. Baste a and b together
- d. Mark turnover in collar - baste
- e. Shape collar and fashion with diagonal basting
- f. Baste tape to collar at seam depth and proceed as on coat front.
Steps a - d.
- g. Ease in (allow $\frac{1}{4}$ " allowance) top of collar. Stitch at seam depth. Cut seam corner off of pointed collar or lapel.
Cut seam wedges out of rounded collar or lapel.
- h. Stagger edge of seam - catch to hyno
- i. Turn collar and press
- j. Trim off hyno $\frac{1}{2}$ " around neck edge.

19. Attach collar

- a. Snip seam depth diagonally from lapel to collar attachment point.
- b. Put top collar on two ends of facing.
- c. Pin to baste back of collar to back of coat.
- d. Try on to see if collar sets correctly.
- e. Stitch and press (tape at edge of seam as in rest of collar).
- f. Fasten top edge of collar to neck edge - by hand.

20. Sleeves

- a. Seam the sleeves
- b. Stitch gathers over top of cap
- c. Pin sleeves into armseye - pull gathers until sleeves are set in loosely.
- d. Unpin - shape top of sleeve, shrink in fullness.
- e. Baste in and try on
- f. Stitch - press open only top $\frac{2}{3}$ of sleeve - Press out toward sleeve.
- g. Snip lower $\frac{1}{3}$ of seam - Press open. Catch hyno to this.

21. Shoulder pads

Catch stitch shaped shoulder pads to suit - hyno side to suit.
Add more padding if necessary. (shape pads on glass - cut hyno shape of pad and catch to pad press into shape).

HOMEWORK: Step 22

22. Home make lining - Follow H.D. 422 - Coat lining.

FOURTH DAY: Steps 23 to 26

23. Hem

Sleeves at hem line

- a. Turn up hem - baste folded edge
- b. Try on and check length for straightness
- c. Press and remove basting
- d. Trim hem to $1\frac{1}{2}$ " - Sleeve hem to 1"
- e. Cut bias $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. Press $\frac{1}{2}$ " fold in bias.
- f. Lay bias fold next to fold under hem. Catch stitch muslin crease to sleeve at hem crease.
- g. Baste top edge to sleeve or suit.

Suit -- h. Catch **stitch** hem to bias

Coat -- i. Finish hem with seam tape and catch to bias. (bias should come to edge of hem only - must not show).

24. Put in lining

Notes: a. May be stitched all in one piece and then stitched to suit wrong side out.

Catch by hand under arm and lining and suit sleeve.

Baste side seams (inside) together.

b. Stitch as above and put lining in by hand.

25. Hem for Suit

a. Mark $\frac{1}{2}$ " up on inside from bottom to hem

b. Turn up lining hem to come to $\frac{3}{2}$ " mark - baste

c. Trim lining to 1"

d. Baste to suit $\frac{3}{4}$ " from bottom of lining edge.

e. Slip stitch hem of lining to hem of suit $\frac{1}{2}$ " from bottom of lining (1" from bottom of suit)

f. Be careful not to catch top of lining - this forms a loosing pleat at bottom for ease or give in lining.

26. Hem for Coat

Steps a and b. Same as for suit.

c. Trim for 2" hem (leave $2\frac{1}{2}$ ")

d. Hem as for dress (separate from coat)

e. Catch lining to coat at seams only (have 1" guides in attaching)